

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for the identification of an article marking device is based on the encryption of information and a biometric sample of the person to be identified, thus providing a marking device for effectively and reliably confirming the identity of an individual claiming ownership of the marking device or marked article. In practice, double verification of the authenticity of a claimed owner of the marking device is achieved. The first verification requires that the claimed owner know a private password for a key that has been used to encrypt the information stored in the marking device, and the second verification requires a match between a biometric sample taken from the claimed owner and a biometric sample code that is stored in the marking device or with information derived from the stored information.

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